

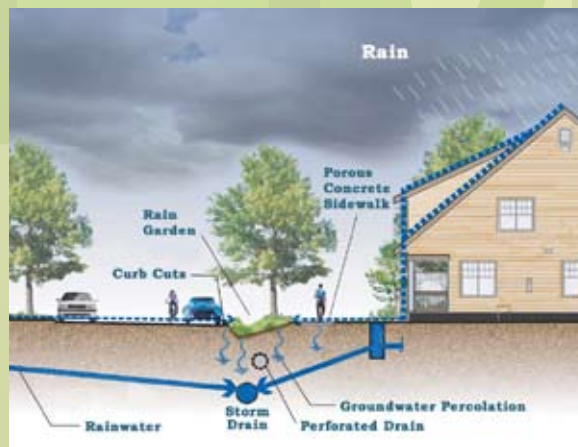
Rain Gardens

Rain gardens, also known as bioretention cells, are landscaped, shallow depressions that provide enormous stormwater benefits. They allow storm runoff to slowly soak into the soil. Deeply amended with compost, the soil and plants can soak up and filter runoff before it reaches our storm systems and natural waterways. Many native plants as well as ornamentals thrive in these gardens.

$\times 0.7_{sf}$
green factor

Rain Gardens can:

- 🌱 help reduce erosion and pollution of our streams and lakes
- 🌱 filter oil and grease from driveways, pesticides and fertilizers from lawns, and other pollutants reaching our streams, wetlands, lakes and marine waters
- 🌱 lessen flooding and combined sewer overflows
- 🌱 provide habitat for beneficial insects and birds
- 🌱 increase the amount of water that soaks into the ground to recharge local groundwater
- 🌱 add interest and beauty



Far Left: Seattle's pilot Street Edge Alternatives Project, aka SEA Streets, was designed to provide drainage that mimics the natural landscape prior to piped systems.

Above and Left: Vegetated Swales or Rain Gardens as implemented at the High Point development in Seattle (illustration by SvR Design).